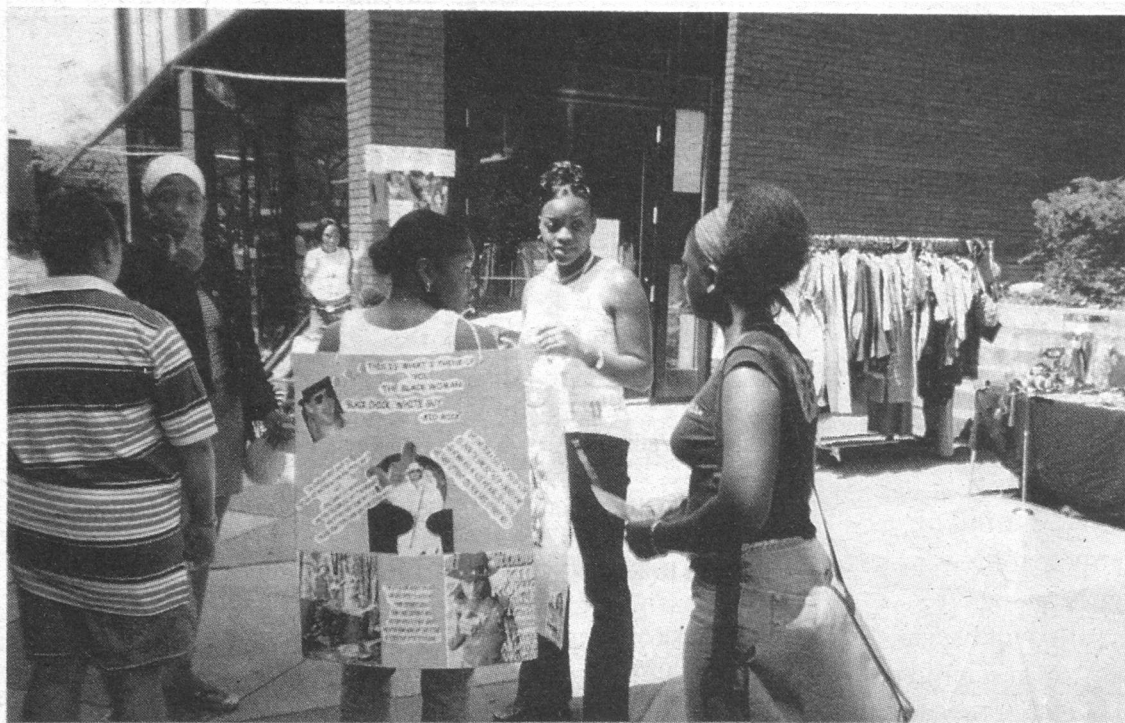


# The Spelman Spotlight

VOLUME XVI NO. 10

MAY 1, 2002

## Images of Women in the Media holds class at Market Friday



By: Lana Smith

"Truth or Dare: Are you perpetuating these images? We dare you to resist them!" That was the theme of Market Friday on April 19, 2002.

They made you aware and they gave you a dare. A group of nine students from the *Images of Women in the Media* class made students think twice about their choice of music, the images of women in the media and question their true self.

With fluorescent posters everywhere and magazine clippings of half-naked women on the ground, students couldn't help but to stop, look and wonder what was going on.

"We wanted to really catch

people's attention, but approach it in a way that we wouldn't be nagging them. By putting the harsh and bold images on bright paper and posters, it made them voluntarily look," said Shayla Arline, a group member.

What started out as a small group assignment from their professor Dr. Tarshia Stanley, to gather students' opinions on images of women in the media, turned into an enormous project and immense effort to make students aware of the negative images they might be perpetuating.

"Initially the group was supposed to present for a class assignment, but after working together we realized we wanted to really



raise consciousness about how the media subconsciously affects what we do in our daily lives. The project then became a part of life for us instead of just a grade," explained Christina Williams, a senior group member.

The presentation, directed towards both women and men, consisted of several "Truth" stations. A large

banner hung over Lower Manley daring people to resist the negative images of women that are portrayed in the media. In front of the book store there was a "Trail of Truths," which was comprised of numerous advertisements that were almost impossible to decipher what exactly the ads were selling, except for sex.

There was a "Naked Woman's Body Truth," that had common derogatory phrases attached to her specific body parts. By the post office a "Mirror Mirror Truth" station surveyed and challenged students to find their true self-image and not the media's images.

male and male artists.

The presentation raised awareness and was well received by students and faculty. Many people voluntarily participated and held conversations among each other and with group members about the issues.

According to the group members, the majority of negative images of African American women were found in black publications such as *Vibe*, *Sister 2 Sister*, *The Source* and *Essence*.

"It used to be that the white man was oppressing us, and now it's a shame that once we got a hold of tools such as magazines and films, we

started oppressing and degrading ourselves," said Samantha Chamblee, a group participant.

The *Images of Women in the Media* group dared to make people aware and they succeeded. The question that still remains is what are you going to do to resist the negative images of women in music, magazines, television and films?

## Impetus; an improvisational comedy performance

by Clanci M. Cochran  
Campus and Local

Quarles Auditorium probably never before saw as much action as it did on April 16, 2002.

A dozen students, dressed all in black and barefooted, were blasting dance music, dancing and jumping around, blowing bubbles, and singing at the top of their lungs.

To the untrained eye, or the audience members, it looked like mad craziness and pandemonium, but the wild behavior is what this group calls "warming up".

Impetus, the campus improvisational group, is made up of Spelman and Morehouse

students who are interested in the performing and acting and are not afraid to act a little silly while perfecting their craft.

The team was created by Crystal, a Spelman student who attended a performing arts high school and felt as if Spelman should have an improvisation group to give students an unique way to express themselves. Impetus started in the second semester, holding meetings every Tuesday night for an hour.

The word impetus has many meanings, including: a

driving force, impulse, and the tendency of a moving body to keep moving after the force which has kept it in

**Impetus: driving force, impulse, the tendency for the body to keep moving after the force which has kept it in motion ceases to act.**

motion ceases to act. The non-stop laughter of the audience proved that Impetus lives up to their name.

The practices paid off; their first performance showcased many perfected

acting exercises. The group encouraged the large audience to have a seat on the floor—"to get the full effect."

Everyone was handed a blank piece of paper where they were instructed to write a line from a movie, song or play, which the improv group acted out later. After Crystal introduced herself and the players, the show commenced. For almost two hours the actors

showed their talents by pulling words, actions and emotions right off the top of their head. Some of the "games" that the players performed were Returns, Freeze Tag, Genres, Stop-Do It Again and Hitch-

hiker.

"The games are fun to play but hard to make them funny," says Terrence Young, one of the players. "We have to rely on impulse-natural energy created when we work together."

The audience showed their appreciation and support by laughing, clapping and cheering the group on. Mironda Sneed, a first-year student from Spelman, was pleasantly surprised. "I hadn't planned to go," she admitted, "but I'm glad I did because I really enjoyed myself."

Impetus is one of the AUC's best kept secrets. Be sure to check them out in the years to come.

**The Spelman Spotlight**

Cynthia Daniels

**Editor-in-Chief**

Leigh Davenport

**Executive Production Editor**

**Graduation.** Time to say good-bye to friends, faces, professors and familiar places. Spelman College and Atlanta, Georgia have truly served as home to me for the past four years. And now, it is time to leave everything behind.

Although it is hard to imagine life without grilled cheeses and french fries from "The Grille," long lines in the Bookstore in between classes and the chimes, which go off whenever they feel the need, it is time to move on.

To my sisters in the class of 2002, I have never been so proud to be a part of something in my life. We have African-American sisters bound for Harvard law school and UVA Business School. Spelman women prepared to enter the financial worlds of Merrill Lynch and Goldman Sachs, and even sisters who will be standing in front of a classroom next year ready to future generations. And so to all of you I say "thank you."

Thank you for proving that all African-American woman are not "short-ies," "hos," and "breezies," who are willing to do anything for the attention of a male. Whether I end up in New York or across the world, next year, I will always represent Spelman College's Class of 2002.

Last summer, I was driving through New York City, with a car full of girlfriends and of course my Spelman sticker representing on my rear view window. Suddenly, a clamor of horns blared behind me. My girls and I were ready to throw down while the horns continued. The car, then rolled up beside me, the driver yelling wildly "I Went to Spelman! Class of '98." (You see there: she represented Spelman first and her class: although she had been out of school for three years).

This editorial is not just for my graduating seniors. To the underclassmen, stay strong, because this bond is what you have to look forward too. How many people can say that on the streets of Manhattan late at night they ran into a sister they had never met? Not many.

And that sisterhood is the reason that no matter how hard it gets, or how many times you cry yourself to sleep ready to throw in the towel: you keep working and you become a Spelman Alumna.

Honestly, I can not boast the classification yet, but I am so close that I am anxious. And just in case you all are wondering: it is as good as it feels (smile).

Blessings to you,

Tomika DePriest	Advisor
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Please mail all correspondence to:

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350 Spelman Lane SW-Box 1234-Atlanta, GA 30314  
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**AUC Worship Service**

We still need people to sign up to participate in the AUC Worship Service to be held on Sunday, May 5, 2002. If you are interested, please contact the Senior Class Council at [spelmanseniors2002@hotmail.com](mailto:spelmanseniors2002@hotmail.com) immediately.

**Graduation**

Remember that graduation will be held on Sunday, May 19, 2002 at New Birth Missionary Baptist Church. Graduates must arrive by 2:30 pm! The service will begin promptly at 4:00pm so families are encouraged to arrive by

3:00pm. The church address is:

6400 Woodrow Road

Lithonia, GA 30058

Directions to the New Birth Missionary Baptist Church are as follows:

Take I-20 East to Exit 74 (Evans Mill Rd.).

Bear right off of the exit.

Turn right at the first traffic light (Evans Mill Rd.).

Travel about mile down to Woodrow Rd.

Turn right onto Woodrow Rd.

Follow the signs to the Church.

**Registrar's Announcements**

Completion Letters will be distributed on Thursday, May 16, 2002 from 2pm - 4:00pm in the Lobby of the Science Building.

Graduation Rehearsal will be held on Thursday, May 16, 2002 at 4:00pm in Sisters Chapel.

Senior Class Day will be held on Friday, May 17, 2002 at 2:00pm in Sisters Chapel.

Baccalaureate Services will be held on May 18, 2002 at New Birth Missionary Baptist Church. All graduates must arrive at 8:45 am. The service will begin at 10:00am.



## Spelman Welcomes it's new President

### How will Spelmanites spend their summers?

By: Jennifer Foster

As the semester comes to a close decisions have to be made about how the summer months are going to be spent. Some of us have just completed our first year of college and are eager to return home to our families to share our experiences and what we have learned. Others are saying good-bye to undergrad forever and will spend their summer preparing for what lies ahead. Still, others will be working or interning, trying to build up our resumes.

Freshman, Shayla Griffin, said her first year at Spelman has been wonderful, but she can't wait to return home to Indianapolis where she can truly enjoy her vacation.

Sophomore Charlie Penn says, "summer is the best time to take advantage of opportunities, and quite frankly, there's no place like home." She will be returning to New Jersey for the summer, while interning with Glamour magazine in New York City.

Junior, Yazmina Beverly, will be interning with the Inroads Corporation. Her summer will be spent experiencing corporate America.

A senior who would like to remain anonymous gives this advice to her Spelman sisters, "Don't let the summer heat make you forget your purpose. Enjoy yourself, but remember, school is just a summer away."

I myself, a sophomore at Spelman, have moved off campus and will remain in Atlanta to work and earn money for next semester.

There are so many ways to spend your summer and so many things to do. Websites, such as Jobs.com offer great employment opportunities. Also, advisors and personnel in the career placement office can offer information about internship opportunities.

If you are not interested in working over your vacation you can still contact personnel in the office of community service and find out how you can serve your community over the summer.

Whatever, your decision, make it worthwhile and look forward to seeing your Spelman sisters next semester.

The Board of Trustees of Spelman College has appointed Dr. Beverly Daniel Tatum as the institution's ninth president.

Dr. Tatum, a scholar, teacher, author and administrator will assume her duties at Spelman in August 2002.

"The Board and especially the members of the Search Committee have worked diligently to find the right woman to lead and inspire Spelman College. We have selected the best and we are confident that Dr. Tatum will build on Spelman's traditions and enhance Spelman's mission to develop the intellectual, ethical and leadership potential of its students," said Dr. June Gary Hopps, chairperson for the Trustees.

A fourth generation professor, Dr. Tatum was raised in Bridgewater, MA. She earned a B.A. Degree from Wesleyan University in psychology and a M.A. Degree and a Ph.D. in clinical psychology from the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor.

Dr. Tatum comes to Spelman from a thirteen-year career at Mount Holyoke College where she is Acting President and Dean of the College.

Her noted book, "Why Are All The Black

Kids Sitting Together in the Cafeteria?: And Other Conversations About Race," exploded on the national scene in 1997; and, she has been a featured lecturer on the subject of race relations - appearing on several panels around the country, including President Clinton's Initiatives on Race. Prior to joining Mount Holyoke, she was an Associate Professor and Assistant Professor at Westfield State College in Westfield, MA, and a lecturer at the University of California at Santa Barbara's Department of Black Studies.

"In the selection of Dr. Beverly Daniel Tatum, Spelman College continues to be blessed with women of genius," says Yvonne Jackson Search Committee Chair. "Dr. Tatum's capability and work in building an entire College community will serve Spelman well. Her impressive leadership talents and unique sense of academic mission are extraordinary."

Dr. Audrey Forbes Manley, Spelman's retiring President, leaves the College well positioned for transition into the twenty-first century with a strong financial footing and an improved infrastructure.



"This is an exciting time for Spelman," Dr. Manley says, "and I am looking forward to greeting Dr. Tatum and welcoming her to the Spelman community. I will offer my assistance to Dr. Tatum in whatever manner necessary toward the best interest of Spelman."

"Spelman College holds a very special place in higher education, and I am tremendously honored by my selection as the next president. As the granddaughter of a

Spelman woman, I have been the beneficiary of its wonderful legacy of preparing black women for leadership, and I look forward to working with the faculty, staff, students and alumnae to build on its long tradition of academic excellence and mission of empowerment and service," says Dr. Tatum.

courtesy of the spelman college web site

**The Spelman Spotlight wishes you a wonderful summer! Farewell to the graduating seniors, best of luck!!! To everyone else, we hope you return rejuvenated and ready to begin another year of the Spelman Experience**



## The complexity and diversity of "The Spelman Woman"

Spelman College: A four-year, historically black liberal arts school geared to nurture a healthy, whole woman whose presence influences the world. However, some, during their matriculation (I love that word) are not as healthy and whole woman, as the college would like to think. Now Spelman does encompass a very diverse student body, with students coming from all over the country as well as the world. So typically you would find a variety of different types of women. Well, I have in a sense "broken down" the Spelman



woman in four different types. Now not all are negative, and not all are positive, but this analysis is strictly based upon my observations during the past year and a half.

**Whitley-type: The Black Bourgeoisie**

Now you ladies don't get offended, because you know that they exist: The Whitley-type (referring to the Whitley Gilbert character from "A Different World"). I must admit, even though this is the stereotype of Spelman women among other institutions in the AUC, it does not pertain to all behind the Pearly Gates. Don't get me wrong they exist, and in full affect, but I wouldn't go as far as to categorize all Spelmanites as stuck up.

The Whitley type is that classmate of yours that is a self-absorbed, snooty individual who walks around

your campus with aristocratic airs. The one who is in constant dialogue with others about how her school, her ways, and her materialistic expectations are far more superior than any others. She walks around making herself feel good, by condemning others. You know her; she always has something to say about someone's outfit, car, or opinion.

She has standards that many can't meet and usually fits W.E.B. DuBois Talented Ten model. The criteria for the Talented Tenth: You're upper crust. You're lighter, the lighter you are, the more privilege. Pedigree counted; whom your parents or grandparents were. This type, in absolutely no way feels she is lacking anything. This rich and pampered Spelmanite (who 99.9% of the time is down right sexy) is vain, selfish, demanding, and so confident that she feels superior to everyone. Don't you love them! These

wonderful ladies are the ones who tarnish what a Spelmanite represents, and is the foundation of many stereotypes.

**Jane Toussaint-type: A Little Girl, In The Real World**

If you have continued to read this article, that means you either agree with what I have said, and can relate, or you are utterly offended, and you want to hear what this "senseless, close-minded, and probably hideous-looking" man of Morehouse has to say next, so you can blast him with a letter to the editor. Regardless, thank you for continuing.

The Jane Toussaint-type (referring to Tisha Campbell's role in "School Daze") is your sister who you hear in the cafe, talking about how she is the bomb because the guy she went out with drove 2001 Expedition.

These intelligent but vapid ladies, or should I say "little girls" are dimensionless sisters infatuated with the interaction with men. They base their interaction with men on what they wear, what they drive, on campus or off, and whether or not his ice bling-blings bright enough to blind them.

These ladies I can't help but to find amusing. Now come on, you talk about them too. Especially when they get all dressed up to go out to eat . . . to Stegalls, and then take two to three hours to get back to the gates. Majority of the time they migrate in packs usually based upon state or dorm. They are simple-minded, yet intelligent females who yearn for attention. They don't make men work for it; in a blink of an eye, they are there when they hear the words, "Let me holla atcha Shawty."

**The Hotep-type: Focused On Liberation**

This next type of Spelman woman is one that no character in television or movies can embody, the "Hotep, hair is naturally kept, our people are oppressed, I never settle for



less, fuck the American Dream, I symbolize that black, red, and green, I am a black and beautiful, Nubian queen" type. I have the up most respect for these women, because they are willing to die for what they believe in.

These queens are the ones who most of the time knows more about her history than the African-

American studies teacher. They are the one who make you think twice in class when they give their explanation of the situation using references to the African-American struggle for liberation. Social change is her middle name, and any time things are getting tough, she will be the first one to state that she doesn't need a man. They organize protest, they acknowledge their enslavement from, "the man," and usually will find them hanging around various open-mics spreading the message of peace, struggle, and the fight for freedom.

I feel these are the most complex women at Spelman because the Hotep-type comes in so many different forms. Not all are walking around with dreadlocks or afros; some look like the most innocent little girls in the world, however in a split second they turn into a protesting, poetry writing, African queen of justice. They stimulate a man's mind, and allow him to travel to places that he's only read about. Her articulation of the struggle is so powerful, and so profound, that you can't help but to respect her for who she is, and what she stands for.

**Nina Mosley-type: Sexy, Smart & Strong-willed**

Ahhhhh. That is all I can say when I think of the Nina Mosley-type (referring to Nia Long's character in "Love Jones") that Spelman College has. To me at least, these are women you make your wife. They don't take \*@#% from anybody, but they know how and when to be soft toward their counterpart. They know what they want out of life, they get what they want out of life, and they let nothing stop them from reaching their goals.

These goddesses complete a man in the purest sense. They are strong independent women, who ac-

knowledge that they can't do everything by themselves. They represent what God intended Eve to be to Adam: An equal partner for the good of



all. The Nina Mosley-type is the type that would have outsmarted the serpent in the Book of Genesis, and would have made "Paradise Lost," into "Paradise Found." Through her, a man finds paradise; he finds himself an indescribable dream setting that can only be produced through her eyes. She sometimes possesses traits from the mentioned character above. She has the prominence and immanence of a "Whitley-type," she coordinates her dress like the "Jane Toussaint-type," and she has the knowledge and an understanding of the world like the "Hotep-type."

Some women come to Spelman as "Jane Toussaint-types," and when they leave, they become this "Hotep-type," ready to take on the world. Others come as a focused and determined "Nina Mosley-type," and leave Spelman with their heads up in the air like the "Whitley-type." Regardless, Spelman College has become a rich soil for many students who look to grow mentally, spiritually, and academically. Some grow into beautiful roses, and others into weeds. However, those who grow into weeds should have never planted themselves behind those gates to begin with, because Spelman is not just a college. Spelman is a Garden of Eden that expects their flowers to grow, and through that growth, make an impact on the world.



# Opinions & Editorials

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## 4 men: The diversity of "The Morehouse Man"

By: Lakisha Lukas

Yes I was utterly offended. Yes I wish I was not interested in hearing what the senseless, closed minded, and probably hideous-looking Morehouse man had to say. This is far from an apology; however, I must say that I would definitely be lying if I said that the poem I wrote was not written out of anger. You took approximately three thousand women and put them into four categories. I honestly could not find a true representation of myself in any of them and I am sure that other women feel the same way.

You did not say that these categories were close representations, you were saying that this IS it, this is what Spelman has to offer and no matter how hard I try I can not identify with that. So out of anger yes, I did to you what you did to me. I categorized you and I labeled you. I insulted you based on the little information that I got from this random article in *The Spelman Spotlight*. I just wanted you to feel what it was like. No I am not angry

at you, and to be even more honest "Ode to a Morehouse Man" was really an Ode to Morehouse Men, Clark Men and all the other men and women who agree with your article.

It was a normal Monday afternoon in my dorm room when I heard shouts coming from down the hall "Kisha get up you are a celebrity!" My first reaction was... celebrity Oh my God!!! After reading "A Sista in Heat Confronts a Man of the House" I thought my friends forgot one word, "idiot" because that's exactly what the writer of the article tried to do. He tried to make me into an idiot-celebrity. I saw that as a challenge, and I definitely could not back down.

"I was utterly surprised and at the same time saddened to think that a beautiful Spelmanite would take my innocent article in such a negative light. How can educated women like you misinterpret such a simple, clear-cut article?" says Will Thomas (April 2001 edition).

My first question is what

wrote in the April 2002 edition that, "If you look at the article carefully, the article said that: NOT EVERYONE FALLS INTO THESE CATEGORIES." How can you that claim to be intelligent break up women into these categories when you only know a hand full, and even if you knew more, do you really think your four ridiculous categories are justifiable?

Let's forget about the four categories for a minute and try to find some overall good in your article. "The purpose of the article was to encourage the women of Spelman College to take a careful look at how they portray themselves." (April 2001 edition).

Let me get this straight, Spelman women need to take a careful look at how they portray themselves because of closed minded people like you? Even better Spelman women need to take a careful look at how they portray themselves, and no one else on the planet does? After you labeled us your proceeded to rate us, making Nina Mosley the better type. To me at least, these are women you make your wife. ....goddesses complete a man in the purest sense. They are strong independent women who can acknowledge that they can't do everything by themselves. They represent what God intended Eve and Adam to be: An equal part for the good of all.

Since we are giving opinions this very biased ideal is what's wrong with so many people's mentality today. It should be a given that wife material is more than just one type. You are not alone in your closed-minded thoughts, so don't be too embarrassed. Moreover, since you know so much about what God intended Adam and Eve to be, let me ask you another question. If everyone is getting married to the Nina Mosley-type what are the Whitley Gilberts, Jane Toussaint, and Hotep-types supposed to do, sit around and twiddle their thumbs? So am I still wrong for being angry about being categorized and rated? If you still do not understand where I am coming from maybe you will after you are made into a type. How would you like it if I told you that there were four different types of men at Morehouse? Of course my knowledge (like yours) will come from years of research after attending the neighboring school for not more than two years.

There is the Harper type that Taye Diggs plays in *The Best Man* who is mostly good but too weak and selfish to resist the temptation of sleeping with his best friend's fiancé. This is the type that is strong willed when it comes to potential success, very loyal just not too trustworthy around your woman.

The Brian-type is played by Bill Bellamy in *The Brothers*. He

sleeps with any and every kind of woman. This is not because he is a crazed nymphomaniac, but because he hates women. He is too blinded by the hurt caused by a woman in his past; therefore he can't trust women. He also has the ability to become successful at almost any endeavor that he embarks upon except for a healthy relationship with a woman.

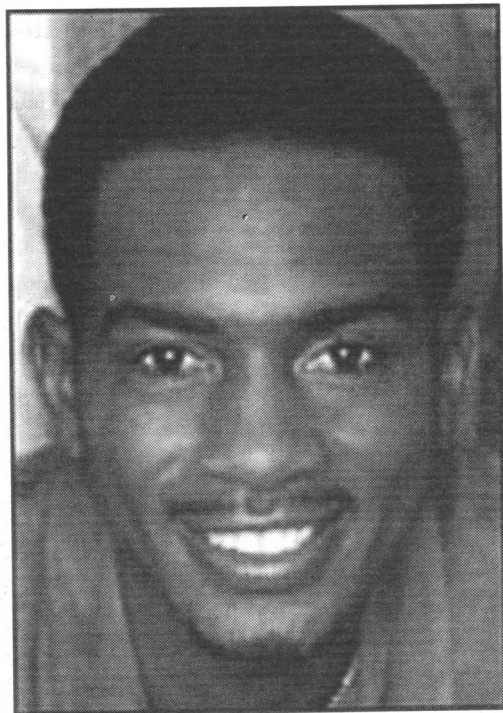
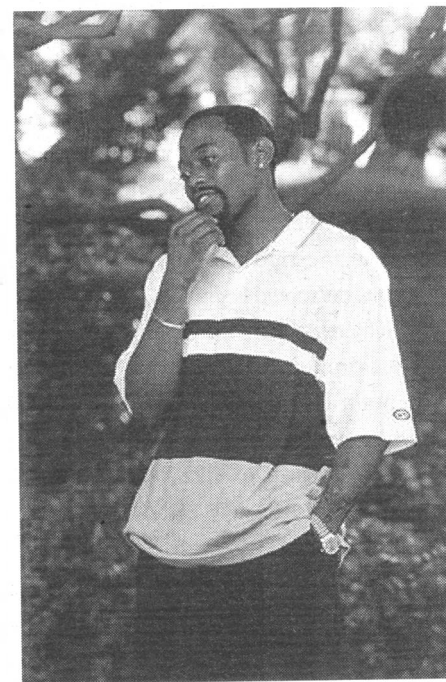
The Quincy McCall-type has every thing made for them and can't stand the thought of being second to anything. He is the beautiful, sexy smart almost well-rounded male who one could very much call the male version of the Whitley-type. Like the Whitley-type he does not understand, appreciate, or accept anything outside of his little world.

Ricky Hughes-type from *Boyz n the Hood* who is not only sexy and intelligent but in the face of adversity he still manages to shine. He is the do-right kind of man that owns up to his mistakes and takes care of his responsibilities. To me this is the kind of man you make your husband. This is the perfect type of counterpart that God had in mind for Eve.

My point is that not only is this a vague, uneducated generalization but it is also biased. It's a waste of ink, paper and space. If anyone is misinterpreting anything it is not me. I am not sure where it was written that a year and a half of

higher education qualifies anyone to make any kind of assumptions, or generalizations that put women into four small personality categories. I am sure that it is highly unlikely that you'll find it written anywhere either. So I suggest that the next time you write an article say what you mean, and mean what you say. Please do not proceed to make generalizations about over 2,000 women when you probably only know at most 10% of them.

In short I am going to ask you to take your own advice and please write the piece with a scholarly eye. Put some intellectual thought into it rather than simply making comments about something that you do not really understand because you obviously do not understand the complexities and varieties of the array of women at Spelman College.





## Local Musicians discuss the craft of music production

By: Natasha McGough

Music producers are composers that create songs through the various instrumentals they construct. It takes a great producer with a tender ear to assemble legendary songs. These four young and gifted producers are viciously making their entrance into the music industry by embellishing songs with unique instrumentals for various artists.

Christopher Olsen, better known as C.Notes, discovered music at an early age with the creation of MTV. Olsen, native of Riverside, California, embraced music production two years ago with the aid of his cousin Rico, who is a member of a jazz and reggae band as well as an established producer in the industry. Rico taught C.Notes the basic techniques that are required to compose, arrange, and sequence a track as well as the art of creating reggae and jazz sounds. After this point of instruction, C. Notes began to make tracks on a Yamaha keyboard and developed tapes with tracks, titled the B.I.N.O.L. Project (Beats In Need of Lyrics), that weren't fully crisp yet. Now at the ripe age of 16, C.Notes has perfected his production skills by mastering the piano, guitar, and drums.

"I put a lot into my tracks, sometimes it is too much and people are starting to like the simple things in life. My tracks are very full and my style is unique. The intro to my tracks would be nothing you would expect the whole song to sound like. I like to make people look at me when the tracks start and say wow this little kid made this," explains C.Notes.

C.Notes is now managed by Phive Star Entertainment, a young management and production company in Los Angeles. Currently, he is working with top writers, Adonis of Bad Boy, J.Q. of HitCo Publishing, and Pooh Bear, the writer of 112's hit "Peaches and Cream." In the future, he would like to work with Usher, Christina Aguilera, and Craig David. C. Notes continues to live by his motto in life: "Live life to the fullest and love music. Music is needed. Music brings emotions out of people and it will always be needed."

Vaushaun "The Maestro" Brooks, age 22, is another tal-

ented producer who is firmly laying the groundwork of his musical style in the industry. The Maestro, a native of Windsor, Connecticut, mastered the piano and drums at a young age through his performances in the Jazz Ensemble, Orchestra, and traveling show choir bands in high school. He has taken his talent of producing to a higher level by mastering digital equipment and working with burgeoning rappers and DJs in the industry. This busy producer is currently composing instrumentals for the Blacklight Family Compilation album, and a new rap artist Chu's album. Both projects should drop sometime in the fall. In addition Maestro is preparing for his graduation in May from Morehouse College. He has recently provided the editing and mixing work for DJ PNut's new AUC Mix Tape Vol. II, which can be ordered at [pizzlenizzle@hotmail.com](mailto:pizzlenizzle@hotmail.com). The Maestro's exceptional style as a producer can't be justified with a classification. His style is an eclectic mix of different influences.

"I feel that music, even though it can be considered to be either R&B or East Coast or West Coast, I feel that it really doesn't do it justice to try to classify it because it is from my heart. I produce based on the way I feel at the time, it is all me. I think that is the only classification that can be used," says the Maestro.

In the future, this gifted producer expresses interest in executing more engineering projects and wanting to work with mega producer and singer Wyclef on some production projects. He has expressed admiration for Wyclef's success in the R&B and Rap arena. He advises all young artists and producers in the AUC to perfect their talent, which will better prepare them for the industry.

"All the people who want to be rappers and producers should not try to just get by but, get good. A musician and artist should look at the whole industry as their competition," says Maestro.

Amil "G.A.M.E." Gibbs, 24, a native of Los Angeles, CA., is already creating long-term strides in the music industry. G.A.M.E.'s, which stands for God And Me Eternally, interest in music began at the tiny age of three

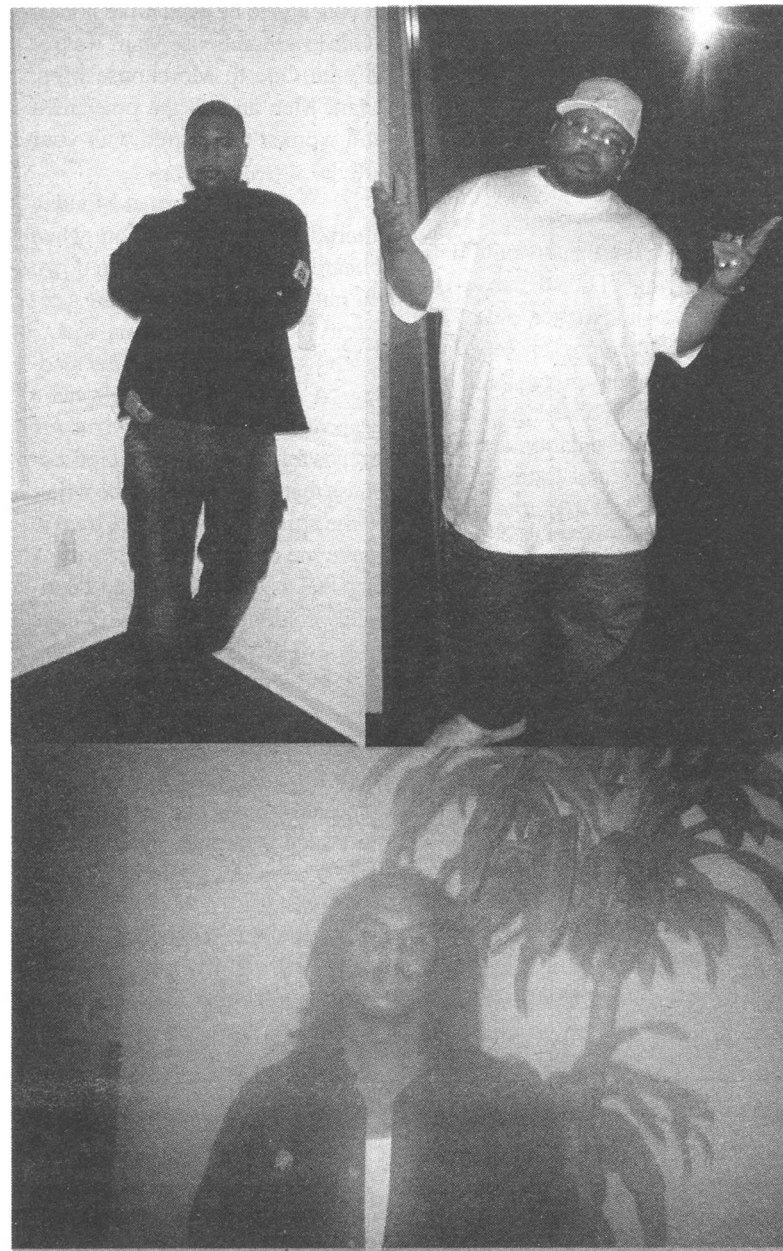
when he formed a drum set out of his mother's pots and pans. His interest soon turned into reality when his family bought him a beat machine in the eighth grade. At the young age of thirteen, G.A.M.E. realized that he definitely wanted to make a career out of producing. By his high school career, he had conquered the drums, percussions, and the digital equipment used to develop tracks. In 1997, this exceptional producer legally started a production company, Smoke Rise Music, with other fellow talented West Coast producers, JP3 and Oji Singletary. Smoke Rise Music has just requisitioned Bill Preston, renowned singer Monica's business manager, to manage the business's finances.

G.A.M.E. has produced a song for Phatts Bosolini as well as a song for YoungBloodz and Waniac titled "Roll With Me." Smoke Rise Music now has one song as a production company that has been placed on an album under The Kindred Entertainment Group, a new multi million-dollar entertainment company based out of Los Angeles, CA. G.A.M.E. currently produces for a fresh new rap group Fast Lane as well as the demos for a variety of new and upcoming artists. His company has also worked with established songwriter Erica Nuri, who has written songs for TLC, Babyface, and Kci and JoJo. His style as a producer is very melodic.

"In my music, I have hip hop drums which are hard core, and then I blend it with a melodic and jazzy feel. My rap music is very melodic and musical. Majority of music today is based on heavy rhythms," says G.A.M.E.

In the future, G.A.M.E. wants to produce more R&B songs because of its musical freedom. Upon his graduation from Georgia State University this summer, he will be returning to Los Angeles to erect more production deals. His advice to all starving artists is to try to master their art.

"It is really a trying thing to break into the music industry. A person really has to figure out their goal and angle. We have been doing music for over ten years and professionally for five years. It is important for a person to discover and understand that one thing that they do well. It isn't very efficient to be a jack



of all trades but, master none," says G.A.M.E.

Phalon Alexander, better known as Jazzy Pha, has already raised the standards in the music industry with his unbelievable style. This phenomenal producer, a native of Memphis, Tennessee, was born into the world of music. Both of Jazzy Pha's parents are musically inclined, his father James Alexander was the bass player for the legendary group the Bar-Kays, and his mother Denise Alexander sung with Barbara Streisand and Earth, Wind, and Fire. He developed his talent by participating in talent shows while in high school. He is not only a producer, but is also a songwriter, rapper, and singer. He wrote "I Don't Wanna Be" sung by the late Aaliyah. One of his first hits that he produced was "Sho Nuff" by Tela. He has also produced songs for Eight-Ball and MJG, LSG, Slick Rick, Too Short, Jim Crow, YoungBloodz, Ludacris, TQ, Tupac, Lil Corey, and a host of other established entertainers. He has currently produced two songs for Snoop Dog's new, unreleased album and he is producing other songs for the new albums of Lil

Kim, Nappy Roots, Field Mob, Gene, a pop artist signed to Motown, YoungBloodz, 702, Xscape, and Monica. His musical style is described as melodic, sporadic gangster and hip hop conscious all rolled up into one and he puts all of his energy into it.

"I don't stop, my secret is that this is all I do. I have surrendered to this music thing, this is what I do. If you have tragedy in the family, or whatever, you can turn to music. There is some tone or there is something that can be heard that will take you out of that. I look at music as my escort," Jazzy Pha said.

In the future, Jazzy Pha has communicated interest in working with Missy Elliot, Dr. Dre, JayZ, Eminem, Nocturnal, and Stevie Wonder. He has also expressed interest in becoming exclusive to the artists that he puts out as well as becoming a franchise. He advises new and upcoming artists and producers to always prepare for the future.

"Get an education because it is knowledge. Know that who you want to be is going to be a nourishment to you. The job of a producer is to give them what is next. If you think about the next person then you will succeed," Jazzy Pha said.



## The Rookie strikes out

Nailah Timberlake  
Baseball Article

The Disney movie titled, *The Rookie* hit theaters late March but was met with weak reviews. The movie stars Dennis Quaid, Rachel Griffiths, Brian Cox and Jay Hernandez as the main characters in this movie based on a true story.

Dennis Quaid, who has played sports stars in *Any Given Sunday* and *Everybody's All American*, now plays a coach who discovers that it is never too late to make your dreams come true. Quaid's character, Jim Morris, a retired minor league pitcher whose career ended after a shoulder injury 12 years ago. He gets married and is the father of three, becomes a chemistry teacher at a local high school in Texas as well as the baseball coach.

As the coach of the baseball team, Morris inspires the team to try and win the district championship by making a deal with them stating if they win the championship game he will try out for a Major League baseball team. After the high school team wins, Morris goes to a

tryout where the scouts are skeptical of his talent until he begins to pitch at 98 miles an hour. He re-enters the minors until a Major League team eventually picks him up. It is a sweet story and quite inspirational because it's a real life story, but from an African American perspective, it is uninteresting.

There have been many movies that have dealt with the all American pastime of baseball, but very few that concentrate on African Americans in the league. One movie in particular is *Soul of the Game* (1996), which starred Delroy Lindo and Mykelti Williamson as Black baseball greats Satchel Paige and Josh Gibson who are vying to be the first Afro-American leaguer only to

see rookie, Jackie Robinson, played by Blair Underwood, be chosen. The movie depicts the era in which Black baseball players flourished for the first time in a national light. Because America was racially segregated, there

was a separate game for whites and blacks that created two distinct baseball cultures. In 1937, Black businessmen used their entrepreneurial skills to create an outlet for Black athletes that never existed before by forming The Negro American League.

In the midst of racial unrest, a charismatic Jackie Robinson signed a monthly contract in 1947 with the Brooklyn Dodgers that signaled a new hope for African Americans. Blacks saw it as



an act of civil rights and racial justice than as a baseball contract.

In exchange for integration into the Major Leagues, the Negro American Leagues were forced to dissipate. Black team owners



suffered serious financial losses as their stars and fans were drawn to the Major League teams. Even with such breakthroughs, discrimination within the Hall of Fame has risen.

Since baseball's Hall of Fame dedication in 1939, 150 whites have been recognized between its inception and 1947 when Jackie Robinson integrated the game, but only 18 Blacks of the same period. Black baseball greats such as pitching ace, Ray Brown; outfielder-pitcher, Cristobal Torriente; and Raleigh 'Biz' Mackey all

have made great contributions to the game, but have yet to receive recognition in the Hall of Fame.

With such a rich history, many African Americans don't see a strong representation in movies that deal with the historical aspect of sports. The trailblazers are unknown and the history is untold so the pride in our culture is lacking because the contributions that have been made have gone unheard and unnoticed. It is our responsibility to research and know who our heroes should be.

## "Documentary Concert Film a Musical Journey"

By Selena Harper

Up-close footage of onstage performances, backstage interviews with band members, guest appearances, energy, good music, feel of the 70s, reliving an era in music history. Celebrating the past. Capturing the essence of the end to an epic. These are just some of the thoughts that came to mind, in describing Martin Scorsese's recently re-released *The Last Waltz*.

The film, which documents the last concert of legendary rock group, The Band, is sure to take classic rock lovers on a journey, into the realms of life and passion.

The Band, which consisted of Robbie Robertson on lead guitar and vocal, Rick Danko on bass, violin and vocal, Levon Helm on drums, mandolin and vocal, Garth Hudson on organ, accordion, saxophone and synthesizers, and Richard Manuel on piano, keyboards, drums and vocals, was on tour for sixteen years, across the U.S. and abroad, when they finally decided to call it quits, in 1976.



Their grand finale concert, titled *The Last Waltz*, was held on Thanksgiving Day of that year. *The Last Waltz* allowed The Band to showcase the culmination of their popular musical talents before 5,000 dedicated fans at Winterland, the venue that just so happened to be their first, as a group.

During the actual performance, The Band let the audience hear a variety of their most popular songs, including "The Night They Drove Old Dixie Down", and "Up on Cripple Creek," but they were



also joined on stage by musical contemporaries and friends, including popular artists Ronnie Hawkins, Dr. John, Neil Young, The Staples, Neil Diamond, Joni Mitchell, Paul Butterfield, Muddy Waters, Eric Clapton, Emmylou Harris, Van Morrison, Bob Dylan, Ringo Starr and Ron

Wood.

The project of preparing a documentary film of *The Last Waltz* was no small task. Director Martin Scorsese sat down with guest artists, a couple of days before the actual concert, and mapped out each song, as best he could, with them. He also put together a 300-page shooting script, the day before the concert, which choreographed all camera movement to musical and lyrical changes on stage. A 518-man stage crew, hired by producer Bill Graham, transformed Winterland into the perfect venue for *The Last Waltz*, with some of the props picked out by Academy Award winning designer Boris Leven. Now, 25 years later, the film, the first of its kind to be shot in 35mm, is being re-released on a limited theatrical basis, along with a special edition DVD and a 4-CD boxed set of the performance, in commemoration of the landmark event.

Watching *The Last Waltz* is a pleasing experience. The musical journey back in time brings out the remnants of an era gone by, and allows the

viewer to delve into the atmosphere of the event, as if actually present. The energy of the finality of a great band's reign, and the simultaneous finality of the roots-inspired rock age, brings a sense of appreciation for things past and a realization that nothing lasts forever. Overall, the film was rejuvenating. It wasn't extraordinary, and it certainly had its offensive segments, such as the part when Garth Hudson, in an interview, speaks of jazz music as being perceived as "evil because it comes from evil people," or when Robbie Robertson tells of his expectations of getting "more pussy than Frank Sinatra" just because of his rock star status.

In addition Levon Helm dons his many rebel flags and sings "The Night They Drove Old Dixie Down." Despite these few disappointments, and the slightly dry segment just before the very end, the film gave off a positive vibe: the joyous last moments of a great ensemble and the appreciation and love their fans and comrades had for them.



## Where's the love?

Ekua Assabill  
Sports Writer

I'm baaack! For all of you who were wondering what happened to the Ekua Assabill, sports writer, here I am. My apologies for making you wait too long. But I am back and ready to talk.

What am I ready to talk about?

I'm ready to talk about the love, or lack thereof.

For the past semester members of the track and field, tennis, and golf teams have been asking themselves,

where's the love?

What happened to the fire that was lit during the student sit-in? What happened to supporting Spelman's athletics?

Now you're probably saying to yourself, what happened to representing for athletes in the newspaper? Well, ironically, this reporter has been busy with the sometimes frustrating, always surprising tennis season.

But don't let that excuse my absence, truthfully I

myself have felt no urge to talk about athletics. What's to talk about?

The number of Spelman athletes and fellow students sitting in the Clark Atlanta's Stadium during the Atlanta University Center Championships where Ashley Sullivan-Kirskey won the four-hundred hurdles?

Shall I talk about the astounding amount of applause she received after her victory? Or shall I discuss the amount of support given to the golf team?

Gotta

I bet you didn't even know we had a golf team. Well this is the love I am so fervently speaking about. Perhaps it is the fault of these various spring sports. Perhaps there isn't enough

advertisement.

Well that all stems from the lack of enthusiasm by the Athletic Department, fellow athletes, students, and faculty. Maybe, it is the responsibility of these teams to try and find some way to re-ignite some enthusiasm into our campus. Maybe it is our responsibility, but with the lack of help, lack of enthusiasm, lack of support, why should we care either?

I know there is an issue with transportation. The majority of the tennis team's matches were away games. This holds true for both track and golf, you see they do not have facilities on campus upon which to both practice and hold tournaments or meets.

This is a challenge that has been acknowledged. Is it not feasible for both the Athletic Department and the athletes to get together and find a way to offer transportation for those students who wish to come support?

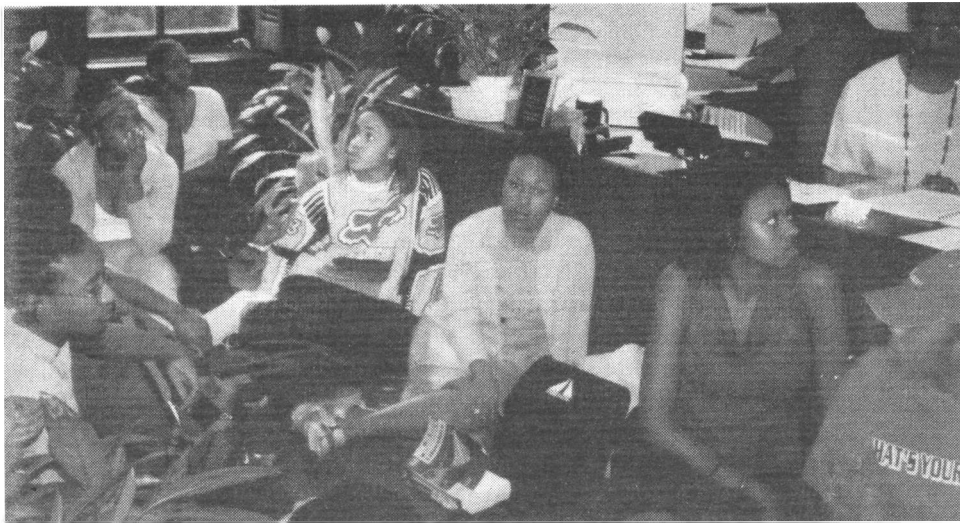
This article is not only directed to Spelman stu-

dents, but also to fellow athletes. It has been a long time since I have seen some of your faces. How's life? Remember the same support you so longed for from your fellow athletes and peers is the same support we are looking for as we represent Spelman in the spring.

Even more disgusting, why is the track and field team competing in fewer uniforms than there are players? Another question, why did the tennis team complete their season with a Coach who has moved to Virginia?

It seems to me that no other team would be placed in such a situation. Are we not athletes too? Then why do I feel that there is no attention given to us, as athletes?

Why do I feel like I am playing and representing a school that gives no love, no attention, and no support for my sport? It seems that there are certain sports that receive more attention than others. That is understandable because not everyone feels a connection to golf or tennis, but for



## The New Exercise Crave

Marcia Lowe  
Layout Artists

The new exercise fad with pregnant celebrities and those looking for stress relief is Yoga. One reason why Yoga is so popular is because of its multiple advantages. Yoga has been known to decrease cholesterol levels and blood sugar, as well as increase the chance of weight loss. Don't move too fast, because there are several different kinds of Yoga so find the one that is the best for you!!

### Yoga Styles

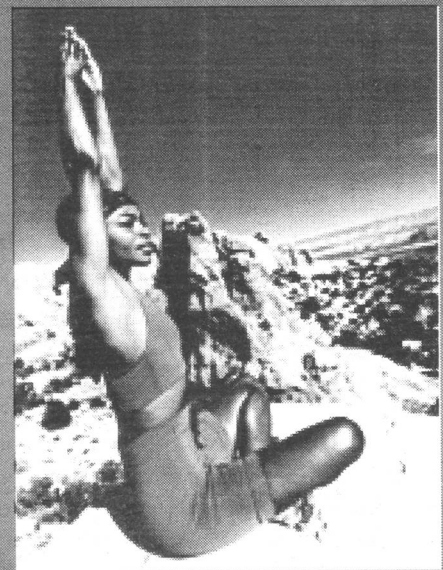
Ananda stresses spiritual growth with silent affirmations.

Ashtanga is an aerobic form also referred to as power yoga.

Bikram is performed in a heated studio to facilitate cleansing through perspiration.

Hatha yoga is a general term for a discipline that blends yoga styles.

Jivamukti concentrates on meditative and strengthening poses. that's best for you!



For more information on yoga, please visit the following websites:  
[www.yoga.com](http://www.yoga.com) and [www.essence.com/highlights/wellness/](http://www.essence.com/highlights/wellness/)





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## The Meat Market a.k.a the Housing Process.

Nkechi Olisemeka  
Opinion & Editorial Editor

I don't ask for a lot from Spelman College except to provide me with a chance to obtain a good education and a well-rounded college experience.

Truthfully, I feel that I am getting both of those things. However, every once in awhile, I get the need to want to experience something a little extra, how about some organization?

The race for on campus housing is a disgrace. It is unfortunate that we are living within a technological era, and while other schools get their housing picks by the stroke of a key, we have to rush to a line like uncivilized people in order to avoid the possibility of being homeless next year.

Granted, the reason for changing the system to a "first come first serve" basis was because the lottery system was not fair, and people complained. For example, although you may have handed in your application earlier than another person, you may not be given a better lottery pick.

I am glad we took steps towards change, but is this the



best way to resolve the problem? I think that we can all put our heads together and find a more orderly way to approach the housing process.

Honestly I am probably not going to be living on campus next year, but I still feel that since this is going to be my institution for the next three years, I would like to see some changes and improvements made to it (slowly but

surely).

Spelman College is a school that indeed prides themselves on rich tradition, but some things we need to let go of.

We need to let go of the disorganization, and embrace new times where things do not always have to be that complicated. For next year I wholeheartedly feel that we could impress ourselves by getting rid of this meat-market system that we

are working with.

A suggestion that I have is, once a person's financial situation is cleared (having the zero balance on your account that Spelman is already enforcing), then the person can receive a number. This number would not be randomly picked, but a number will be assigned according to how early you hand

in your application.

Hence, if you are the hundredth person to have zero balance on your account, and turn in your application form, then your number would be one-hundred. I am not asking for the school to implement an intricate form of the housing process that would entail new data bases, I am just asking for the school to go down the list from one to whatever number and hand them

out accordingly.

Realistically, I know that chances are, the people in the housing department are not going to read this article, and if they did... they'll probably chuck it up to, just a regular Spelman College student flapping her gums.

But realistically, I have to tell anyone that has the power to make the change to carefully listen to my opinion because I am not just writing for the sake of writing. I do not stand alone in the embarrassment I feel when describing our housing process to people who are curious about it.

Also the school needs to realize that we do not live in an isolated box. Perspective students and their parents want to know the living conditions, and having gone through the college process just a year ago, I can tell you that it is very competitive, and important. It is so vital that just the rooms and the availability of housing can decide whether or not a person would attend the institution or not.

Let us be smart and realize that people want an education, but they also enjoy comfort and convenience.

## Education versus Grades

Portia Kaleen Murphy  
Opinion and Editorial Writer

Results from a recent survey of a Spelman College class imply that grades are more important than understanding the material. It goes without saying that the purpose of attending college is to make students better prepared and more competitive for the real world. Actually, it is sort of a socialization process that young adults go through. However, there is a major concern, not only on this campus, but on campuses worldwide. Which is better: a comprehensive education or the grades?

Like any dispute, there

are two sides to every argument. One side argues that because of the competitiveness in the business world today, it is more important to get good grades in order to get hired than it is to just understand the material to the fullest extent. But on the flipside, some debaters feel as if it is more important to earn the grades you deserve but attempt to obtain the greatest understanding of the curriculum.

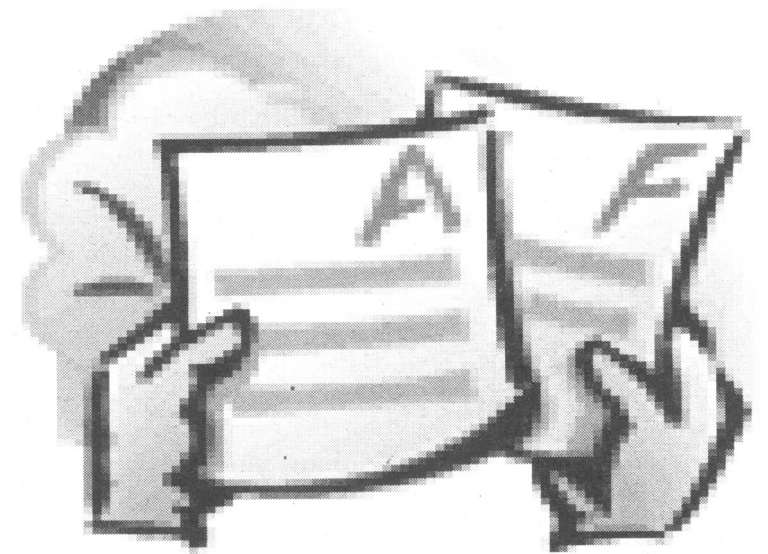
In today's society, a college student's GPA is an extremely determining factor in securing a job. Before, employers used to look at what school the student attended and their prior occupations.

But now, employers are interested in the kinds of grades a student received in college. No longer are jobs guaranteed because you went to a university or college.

Good grades have become so pertinent in the future of a student that students are starting to do some extraordinary things to get them. Students are not concerned with writing on the bottom of shoes or copying off of each other anymore. The same rate that technology is moving, so are students. Now students are changing grades online and breaking into teachers' laptops. It has even come down to bargaining and buying grades.

Sure, you might say that this is a little bit too much. But, with the way grades impact students' futures, one might say that this is what is expected. Well, what about honesty? Some students feel as if they are really trying in classes to learn and understand the material but professor's exams and work are nearly impossible. Now, by no means am I condoning cheating. I am just delivering one side of the argument.

Many students feel like if they do not get good grades that many things will happen. For one, their parents



will be disappointed in them for not getting the grades that they hoped for. Another problem may be that the student will not get the job they wanted. Third, if they get bad grades they will not get scholarships or they will lose their scholarships. So, it is obvious that good grades are a priority of many students.

Now, on the other hand, some students feel as if grades are better when earned and when the material is understood. Sure, grades play an important role in the future of college students, but what happens when you have to exercise your knowledge? If you do not know the material how are you going to be able to use it in your job?

An old proverb says, "Knowledge is the key." Knowledge, not grades. What happens when you get the grades, the degree, and the job but then you are asked to apply your knowledge? You will not be able to apply your knowledge because you were too concerned with finding ways to get the grades you wanted than reading Constitutional Law or what have you.

What happened to honesty? Some feel like it is more important to have a clear conscience than to cheat or bargain for grades. What is more important to you, the grades or the education?





## A Note to the Deans Office: Don't Waste Our Time

Jasmine Guy  
Oped Writer

First Year Seminar is a waste of time! Most of the activities/programs are not of any interest to the general student body. Why must we suffer through boring sessions, and most importantly, why waste time engaging in tasks such as the Writing Portfolio?

I personally feel that the writing portfolio is unnecessary. It does not benefit me or my classmates, because we hardly receive feedback and comments on each of our papers that we submit.

Therefore, I am not learning anything from completing it. Since the students do not receive any feedback or comments, I doubt that all of the essays will be read, but they may be skimmed through. One of the main reasons why my classmates and I came to Spelman was to enhance our

intellect and by doing so, it is necessary to receive feedback from completed assignments.

The writing portfolio component is an insult to the entire English and History departments here at Spelman College. It appears that the Dean's Office does not feel that our professors are qualified to teach us the proper ways of constructing an essay or research paper.

Spelman College constantly tells us that we are blessed to have such road scholars who are experts in their fields, and we should take advantage of every opportunity that we are given throughout our academic career.

If the Dean's Office was confident that our beloved professors are so highly qualified, why must we submit a portfolio? English and History professors should see this project as an insult to their

abilities. If anyone questions whether or not professors are doing an adequate job of teaching, then the professor should be reviewed rather than extend

writing portfolio, we should be investing our time on assignments that actually give us credit, because first year seminar does not.

The Dean's Office should invest time to listen to the valid concerns the student body has regarding first year seminar and other events around the school. As a result more students would enjoy the required programs rather than attend out of obligation. Some convocations have been empowering, for example, the convocation hosted by Big Mama. However, there are more disorganized, unbeneficial, activities/programs such as the writing portfolio that we must complete in order to pass this course.

In addition, the Dean's Office should consider implementing a Student Advisory Board to assist them in

making First Year Seminar and Sophomore Assembly useful. I am sure that many of the students would be more than willing to facilitate.

There are so many flaws in issuing the First Year Seminar grades in the first place; therefore until then the main focus should not be on other departments in the school, but rather on how to get our grades to us more efficiently.

Lastly, if Spelman College would like for First Year students to submit a portfolio, the college should enforce the seriousness of this component and have our English Composition 103 or 193 professors assign us a portfolio.

For example, my professor, Dr. Warner had us to submit a portfolio and we were able to receive proper feedback and I learned from my mistakes. After all, learning from your mistakes and receiving feedback is the purpose for coming to college.

**"The writing portfolio component is an insult to the entire English and History departments here at Spelman College."**

dense tasks to the students. The Dean's Office makes a lot of things mandatory, and they neglect to acknowledge that the students have other pressing tasks, for example preparing for exams and completing assignments. These are assignments that our professors will review and in turn give us feedback. Rather than completing the



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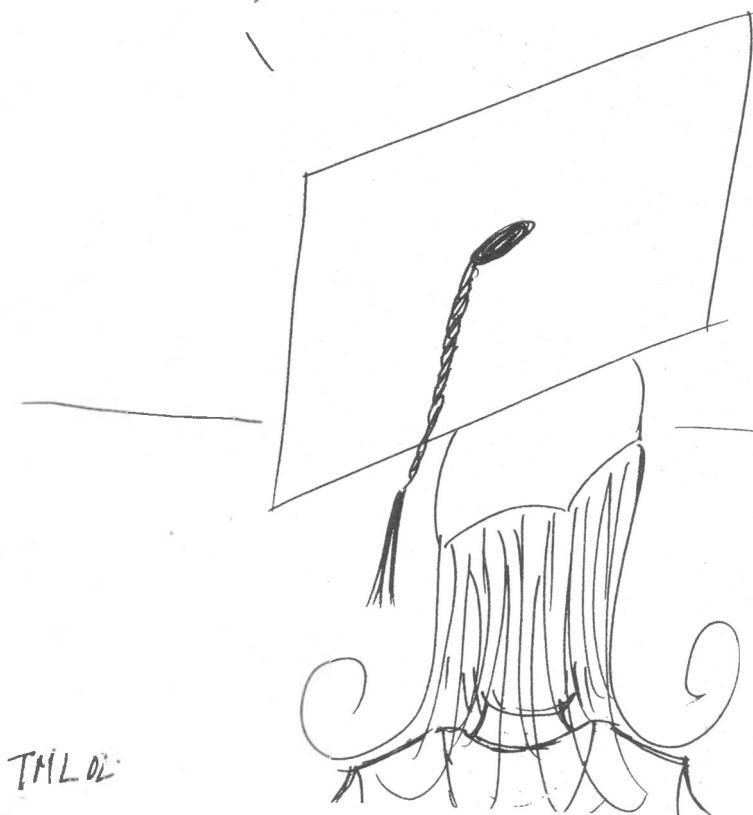
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Spotlight wishes  
you a safe and  
Happy Summer  
vacation.  
Congratulations to  
seniors and Good  
Luck!  
For all of us who  
are returning we  
look forward to  
seeing you next  
year!  
Enjoy your time  
off!!!!**



# A little bit of Spelman Wit

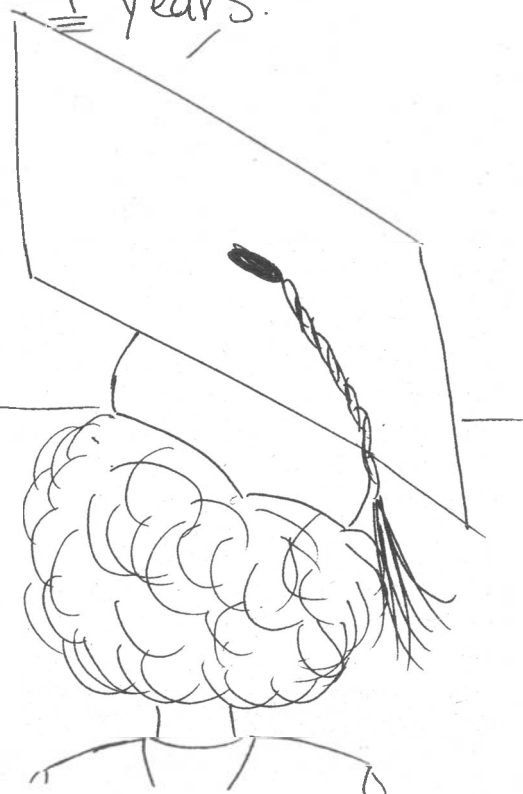
Teresa Leggard

I can't believe the day is finally here. I'm getting that warm stirring feeling that I guess alumna get...

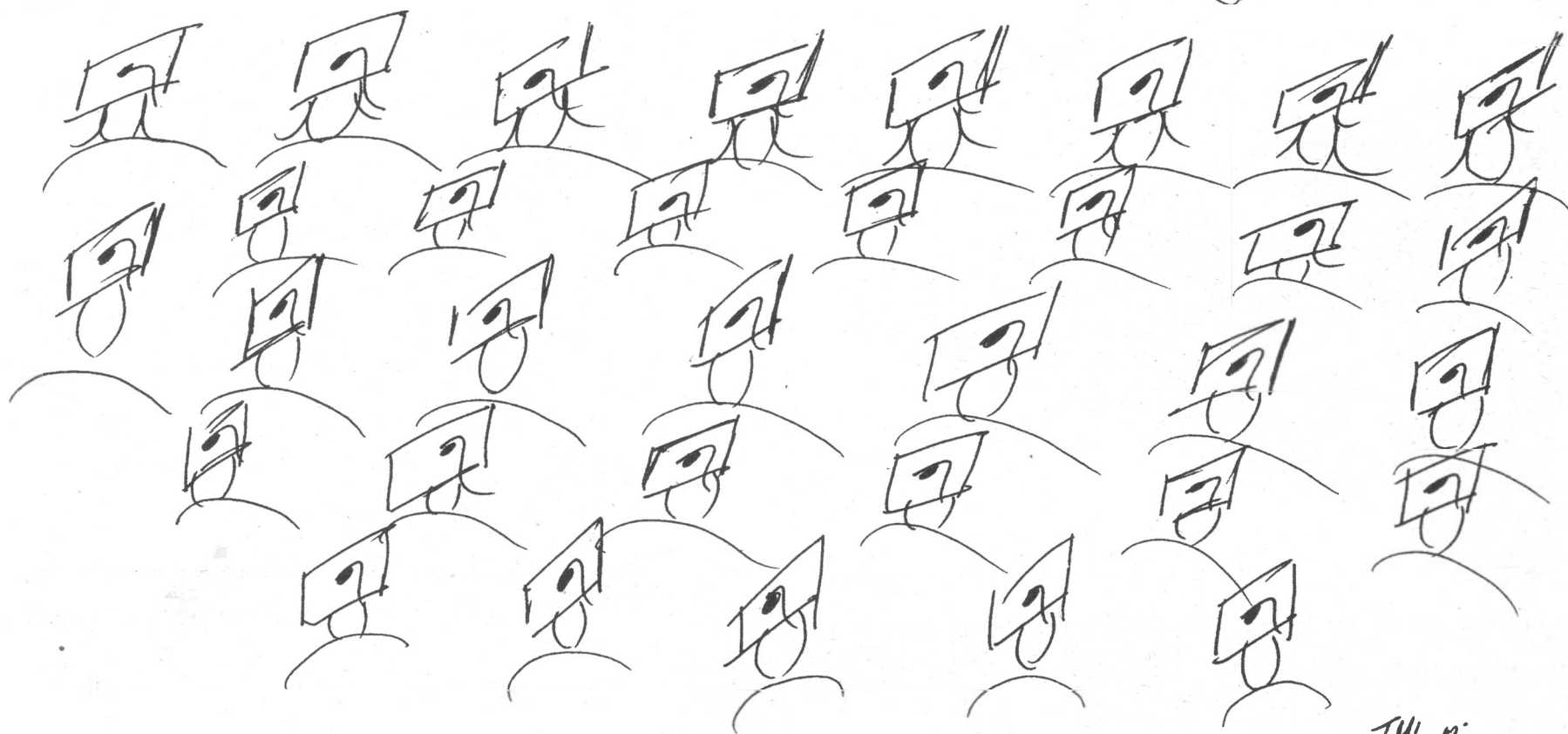


THL 02

I think that's just indigestion we have eaten cafeteria food for 4 years.



Will the real virtuos  
Spelman Woman  
please stand up?



THL 02